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U.S. 63d Congr., 3d sess., 1914-1915

# WILLIAM HENRY WILDER

(Late a Representative from Massachusetts)

# MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

DELIVERED IN THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE
OF THE UNITED STATES

SIXTY-THIRD CONGRESS

Proceedings in the House
February 8, 1914

Proceedings in the Senate
February 28, 1915

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS


| | Page |
|---|---|
| Proceedings in the House | 5–46 |
| Prayer by Rev. Henry N. Couden, D. D | 6, 8 |
| Memorial addresses by— | |
| Mr. Calvin D. Paige, of Massachusetts | 11 |
| Mr. William S. Greene, of Massachusetts | 16 |
| Mr. Ernest W. Roberts, of Massachusetts | 19 |
| Mr. Thomas C. Thacher, of Massachusetts | 22 |
| Mr. John J. Mitchell, of Massachusetts | 24 |
| Mr. John J. Rogers, of Massachusetts | 29 |
| Mr. Martin A. Morrison, of Indiana | 32 |
| Mr. Andrew J. Peters, of Massachusetts | 37 |
| Mr. William A. Oldfield, of Arkansas | 39 |
| Mr. Samuel E. Winslow, of Massachusetts | 41 |
| Mr. Augustus P. Gardner, of Massachusetts | 43 |
| Mr. Allen T. Treadway, of Massachusetts | 45 |
| Proceedings in the Senate | 47–57 |
| Memorial addresses by— | |
| Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge, of Massachusetts | 51 |
| Mr. John W. Weeks, of Massachusetts | 54 |
| Article from the Gardner (Mass.) Journal, Sept. 18, 1913 | 59 |

HON. WILLIAM H. WILDER

# DEATH OF HON. WILLIAM HENRY WILDER

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE

THURSDAY, *September 11, 1913.*

Mr. TREADWAY. Mr. Speaker, it becomes my sad duty to announce to the House of Representatives the death of Hon. WILLIAM H. WILDER, late a Representative from the third district of Massachusetts.

I will not take the time now, but I will at some future time ask the House to set apart a day in order that proper tribute may be paid to his memory.

Mr. Speaker, I offer the following resolutions.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the resolutions.

The Clerk read as follows:

*Resolved,* That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. WILLIAM H. WILDER, a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

*Resolved,* That a committee of 20 Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

*Resolved,* That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions, and that the necessary expense in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

*Resolved,* That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to; and the Speaker appointed as the committee on the part of the House Mr. Peters, Mr. Curley, Mr. Murray of Massachusetts, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Phelan, Mr. Thacher, Mr. Gilmore, Mr. Dietrich, Mr. Adamson, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Oldfield, Mr. Gillett, Mr. Greene of Massachusetts, Mr. Roberts of Massachu-

setts, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Treadway, Mr. Winslow, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Hinds, and Mr. Slemp.

Mr. TREADWAY. Mr. Speaker, I offer the following further resolution.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

*Resolved,* That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

The resolution was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 27 minutes p. m.) the House, under the order heretofore agreed to, adjourned until Friday, September 12, 1913, at 11 o'clock a. m.

MONDAY, *September 15, 1913.*

The House met at 12 o'clock noon.

The Chaplain, Rev. Henry N. Couden, D. D., offered the following prayer:

Thou givest, O God our Father, and Thou takest away. None can stay Thy hand. Thou art almighty and doest all things well. Again this House has been called upon to record the death of another of its Members, one who was born and grew up under the most adverse circumstances of life, and yet made for himself a place in State and Nation—a virile mind and a big heart, a heart that went out to the man down and out, the widow and the orphan, the poor, the hungry, the sick, and the needy in deeds of brotherly love and kindness. May the noble in his character be an inspiration to others and solace to those who knew and loved him. The body perishes, but the soul lives on, we dare to hope, under brighter skies and more favorable environments. So may we live, so may we die, in the faith once delivered to the saints. Amen.

Mr. Barnhart having taken the chair as Speaker pro tempore, a message from the Senate, by Mr. Tulley, one

of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the Senate has heard with deep sensibility the announcement of the death of Hon. WILLIAM HENRY WILDER, late a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

*Resolved,* That a committee of six Senators be appointed by the Vice President, to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives, to attend the funeral of the deceased.

*Resolved,* That the Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the foregoing, the Presiding Officer appointed as said committee Mr. Lodge, Mr. Weeks, Mr. Myers, Mr. Walsh, Mr. McLean, and Mr. Catron.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative the Senate do now adjourn.

TUESDAY, *January 20, 1914.*

Mr. PAIGE of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of the following order.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Massachusetts asks unanimous consent for the present consideration of an order which the Clerk will report.

The Clerk read as follows:

*Ordered,* That Sunday, February 8, 1914, be set apart for addresses upon the life, character, and public services of the Hon. WILLIAM H. WILDER, late a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? If not, it will be so ordered.

There was no objection.

SUNDAY, *February 8, 1914.*

The House met at 12 o'clock noon and was called to order by Mr. Bartlett as Speaker pro tempore.

The Chaplain, Rev. Henry N. Couden, D. D., offered the following prayer:

Father in heaven, let Thy spirit descend copiously upon us as we thus assemble in memory of the departed; men who by their nobility of character, intellectual attainments, and patriotic zeal won for themselves the confidence of their fellows who selected them to be their representatives in this body, to enact into law the things which make for good government; an honor which challenges the respect of men and has secured for them an enviable place in American history.

Their work is done; their souls have passed into the realm where character will be their passport into the larger fields of endeavor prepared by the Giver of all good gifts. We thank Thee for their lives, for their work, for their example. May we work and faint not, trust and doubt not, and be made ready when the summons comes to pass on into the larger life, prepared for whatever awaits us; in the spirit of the Master. Amen.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the second order of the day.

The Clerk read as follows:

On motion of Mr. Paige of Massachusetts, by unanimous consent,

*Ordered,* That Sunday, February 8, 1914, be set apart for addresses upon the life, character, and public services of Hon. WILLIAM H. WILDER, late a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

Mr. PAIGE of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I offer the following resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

House resolution 408

*Resolved,* That the business of the House be now suspended that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. WILLIAM HENRY WILDER, late a Member of this House from the State of Massachusetts.

*Resolved,* That as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the deceased and in recognition of his distinguished public career the House, at the conclusion of these exercises, shall stand adjourned.

*Resolved,* That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

*Resolved,* That the Clerk send a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

### Address of Mr. Paige, of Massachusetts

Mr. Speaker: I regret that I am not so fortunate as many who will follow me on this occasion as to have enjoyed an intimate acquaintance with my predecessor, the Hon. William Henry Wilder, but I know that what I shall say will voice the opinion and judgment of my constituents, who knew him well and who appreciated his ability and his service to them in this House.

William Henry Wilder was born May 14, 1855, at Belfast, Me., where he remained until he was 11 years of age, when his parents removed to Massachusetts. What education he received in the schools came from the great university of the common people, the public school.

During the first years following the removal of the family to Massachusetts he worked on a farm in the summer and attended school in the winter. His knowledge of machinery was acquired in factories at Gardner, Mass. At the age of 17 he went into business for himself, following the paint trade and lines connected therewith, and remained an employer of labor until his death on the 11th of last September.

But for years he desired a larger field of endeavor, his purpose being to go West, but at the solicitation of friends he was induced to remain in Gardner, and the result was that the oil-stove business, which now forms an important part of the manufacturing life of that town, was established there.

Mr. Wilder acquainted himself with every feature pertaining to it, supervised and directed the improvements with such diligence that for a period of more than 20

years not a year elapsed that at least one patent was not issued to him, he having taken out more than 50 in all. His father, Jonas P. Wilder, himself a mechanic, was the inventor of the first sidehill plow, originally devised for plowing on a sidehill, now familiarly known as the swivel plow.

After a short period of depression in the oil-stove business the Central Oil Gas Stove Co. was organized in 1890, with Mr. WILDER as treasurer, and with factories located at Gardner and Florence, Mass., Greenwich, Conn., and Jackson, Mich., and with warehouses at Boston, New York, and Chicago. The volume of business aggregated more than three-quarters of a million dollars a year, and more than five hundred men were employed. He succeeded in carrying these various interests through the panic of 1892 to 1894, but because of some differences arising in the management which Mr. WILDER and his friends could not adjust, an assignment was made in the fall of 1895. This disaster Mr. WILDER opposed, feeling it to be wholly unnecessary. He was thought up to this time to have a competence, but this disaster left him without a dollar when he was 40 years of age and with $50,000 of his own debts and even a larger amount that he had indorsed for those who were cooperating and working with him.

He was urged by many of his closest friends to go into insolvency, but, refusing to take their advice, he ultimately paid 100 cents on every dollar of indebtedness, although before he was able to pay anything the interest had added nearly half as much more.

In 1897 Mr. WILDER brought out the famous free-level oil-stove patents, the first being applied for in April of that year, and it is now being successfully manufactured in Gardner, Mass.

When 45 years of age Mr. WILDER took up the study of the law, in order that he might engage in the practice of

business and patent matters before the United States courts. He gained admission to practice in these courts and afterwards identified himself with a firm of patent lawyers in this city. In subsequent years he became an expert in corporation, bankruptcy, patent, and general business laws, placing many business concerns that were in a precarious condition in good financial status. While he is best known for his activity in the business world as a man of action, he was also a man of sound thinking, as was displayed by his ready grasp of the currency question.

On April 15, 1908, Mr. WILDER addressed the House Committee on Banking and Currency on the subject of the Aldrich bill, the invitation to do so coming from Senator Weeks, of Massachusetts, then a Member of the House, and at that time one of the House members of that committee. Mr. WILDER was practically the only layman who addressed the committee, and his address was subsequently issued by the committee in pamphlet form. About that time Mr. WILDER wrote a diagnosis of the conditions then existing, entitled "My Notions on the Currency Question," which was thought to clearly explain the situation as it then existed.

The next year he went abroad to study the monetary systems of Germany and Austria, visiting all the important centers and carrying letters of introduction to leading bankers, but he returned convinced that the banking systems of the Old World were inapplicable to this country.

I am confident that WILLIAM H. WILDER would wish that no extravagant words of praise or fulsome eulogy should be spoken on this occasion. He was a plain-spoken, honest, sincere, and modest gentleman. Human though he was, he valued appreciation, as we all value it, but it is well at a time like this to recall those qualities in a man which cause men to admire him—absolute honesty, inflexible integrity, unswerving loyalty, and high purpose.

One of his leading characteristics was his supreme optimism. He manifested it in every relation of life. He believed in mankind and that it was forging forward rather than backward. He believed in the men who were associated with him in business, political, social, religious, and fraternal activities, and therefore men believed and trusted in him. He was a man of firm and positive convictions, having strong views on all subjects. Although a Republican and a firm believer in the policies of that party, and believing in party organization as necessary to the proper administration of the Government, he was nevertheless broad and liberal in his views, and his respect for the opinions of others was such that he entertained no ill will nor unkindly feeling toward any man who might differ with him or who belonged to another political party.

Of him former Congressman Samuel W. McCall, of Massachusetts, says:

I can speak from the point of view of one who served with WILLIAM HENRY WILDER during his first Congress. His health was in a critical condition when he became a Member of the House, and I suppose continued so throughout his service, but his energy and capacity were such that he did a great deal of work and did it very effectively. He had a command of business and financial subjects, and his speeches upon them while he was a Member were valuable contributions. I remember that when one of the tariff bills—I think the one upon the cotton schedule—was reported to the House from the Committee on Ways and Means it was arranged that I should open the debate for the Republican side. I promised Mr. WILDER some of my time. He seemed anxious on account of his health to get the matter off his mind at once, and I yielded to him to lead with the opening speech, and it was a good one. He was invited by an association of gentlemen in the banking business in Pittsburgh, Pa., to deliver an address upon the currency question, which he did, and did effectively. I had an opportunity to hear him do political speaking upon the stump, and he showed readiness and force and made a strong impression. He was a thoroughly loyal friend.

Such is the tribute of one of his colleagues on the Massachusetts delegation. How brief the fruition of our lamented friend's hopes in the Halls of Congress. But it was not his custom to complain at fate or misfortune. He was a firm believer in the eternal fitness of things. He sought to be faithful in all things, and so it was when fatal disease placed its relentless hand upon him and he was warned that the time of his departure was near he met his fate with fortitude and serenity.

To his family and intimates his attainments in public affairs and his success in business were overshadowed in the love he had for his family and those nearest and dearest to him.

His ability to serve others was one of the strong traits of his character. He was indeed "a friend in need" to many. His life was one of service in the highest and best sense of the word, and in these days of unrest and discontent he remained an optimist.

There may be seen in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, down in historic Concord, in Massachusetts, inscribed in enduring bronze upon the tombstone of Massachusetts's great Senator, George Frisbie Hoar, these words:

> Finally, I believe a republic to be greater than an empire, and though the clouds darken the horizon I believe to-day is better than yesterday, and to-morrow will be better than to-day.

These sentiments found a ready response in the optimism of WILLIAM H. WILDER.

## Address of Mr. Greene, of Massachusetts

Mr. Speaker: The sad part of the life of a Member of the House of Representatives is the break in the delegation in our respective States caused by the calling of one of our number from his life of usefulness and duty here to the life beyond the grave. The late William H. Wilder, whose memory we recall to-day, passed away September 11, 1913. He was born in the State of Maine, and in early life he removed with his parents to the State of Massachusetts. He knew something of the hardships of life. The numbers who like himself only attended school during the winter months are rapidly decreasing. In his early life educational opportunities were exceedingly limited. As a boy he worked on a farm. Whatever money he received for his services he understood the value of it, for "by the sweat of his brow he earned his bread." Although he lacked a collegiate course of training, he applied himself to the opportunities that were presented to him of obtaining knowledge that gave to him ability to successfully engage in business at an early age. He possessed inventive genius and became interested in many useful patents.

This, together with his environment arising from his being located in a manufacturing section of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, caused him when but 29 years of age to enter business as a manufacturer, and later he organized a corporation known as the Wilder Industries. His history would seem to show more than ordinary activity. To most men what he had accomplished up to that period of his career would seem to have been sufficient to have merited a period of rest. But our late colleague only looked forward to greater activities and

broader accomplishments. Most of the young men of to-day who are intending to become members of the bar want high-school training, a full course in college, and then thorough education in law before seeking admission to practice law in our courts. At the age of 45 years he studied law and was admitted to the bar.

Mr. WILDER was not only familiar with affairs in his own country, but he had been abroad twice and studied monetary affairs, and being a Republican and a protectionist he realized by experience and practical knowledge what advantages had accrued to his district, his State, and the country by the long continuance of the Republican Party in power, and with full appreciation of the advantage which the policy of protection to American industries and American labor had conferred upon his section of the Commonwealth.

He studied the tariff question from the foreign viewpoint in order that he might be enabled to know something which would be of value to him in meeting questions bearing upon the economic discussions in which he then had an ambition to participate.

He was a candidate for election to the Sixty-first Congress, but was not successful in obtaining a seat in this body until the Sixty-second Congress, and he was reelected to the Sixty-third Congress. He was especially equipped to defend the policies of his party and he participated actively in the debates upon the tariff question.

In addition to his intelligent studies and wise conclusions relative to the tariff question Mr. WILDER was a thorough student of the money question. He knew the value of money and he had the ability to accumulate a fair portion of the world's goods. He was an interesting conversationalist, because of his travels abroad and his experiences at home. He had a strong mind, but physically he was not strong enough to carry out all the purposes he had in view.

The close application to his duties here and the great strain of continuous service during the hot months of last summer affected his health unfavorably and resulted in his death at a time when his usefulness seemed to be of the greatest value to his State and to the country.

His life, his experiences, and his accomplishments may well engage the attention of the youth of to-day.

They should inspire encouragement and hope to the rising generation. They show that industry, determination, and adherence to definite principles will produce a reward in the United States of America not afforded in any other country in the world.

## Address of Mr. Roberts, of Massachusetts

Mr. Speaker: The occasion that has called us together to-day is one of sadness and deep solemnity. We meet to pay a last and heartfelt tribute to the memory of our late colleague, William H. Wilder, who passed to eternal rest in the very prime of his manhood and the full fruition of his usefulness as a citizen and a legislator. The exactions and stress of service as a Representative in Congress afford little or no opportunity for that close intimacy of association, among those from the same State even, which is necessary to a just estimate of the full life and character of a man, and I can only speak of Mr. Wilder as I knew him by public as distinguished from close personal acquaintance. He was a man of high ideals and indomitable persistency in seeking to attain them. No official act or vote of his was ever prompted or influenced by private or selfish interest. His life had been crowded with business activity before his election to Congress, and he made full use of the intense energy and great ability by which he had forged to the front in the business world in forwarding the interests and desires of his constituents. He was very regular in attending the sessions of the House. In the latter months of his illness it was pathetic to see him summoning all his strength of mind to aid him in repressing the weariness and pain he was suffering in order that he might remain on the floor and discharge his full duty to the constituency he represented. For many months before his failing health compelled him to forego attendance upon the sessions of Congress he denied himself all social relaxation and enjoyments that he might conserve his failing strength for the better discharge of his public duties.

Mr. WILDER was essentially a self-made man. He had no wealthy relative or friend to aid him either in acquiring an education or gaining a foothold in business. His education was only such as a boy who worked on a farm summers could get in the country schools during the winter sessions, and the meager instruction ceased when he was but 16 years of age. He had ambition, determination, and perseverance; qualities which united with a willingness to work and work hard are certain to bring success in whatever line of effort their possessor may employ them. Lack of higher education or want of opportunity at hand were no handicap to such a man as our late colleague. Utilizing to the utmost such knowledge as he had he went boldly into the world and fought his way steadily upward. Few successful men of his time have entered upon so many and such varied lines of activity, and it is a remarkable tribute to his versatility that after 28 years of unremitting toil he should study law, be admitted to practice, and thereafter utilize his newly acquired profession in the furtherance of his business as a manufacturer. Success as a business man or as a professional man is generally the limit of attainment of most individuals, but with him it was success in both. Nor did the rare qualities of his fertile brain end there, for he shone as an inventor as well, no less than 50 patents having been issued to him in the course of his busy life, each and all of them covering some useful conception of his active brain. That he was imbued with a broad, human sympathy for the toiling masses, from and through whom he had risen, is amply and splendidly testified by the fact that during the 38 years he had been an employer of labor not a strike, lockout, or disagreement marred his relation with those he employed. His career is a splendid illustration of the possibilities open to every boy in the land, and no greater incentive to rise above environment could be

given a boy than to be taught the story of his life. Truly may it be said of WILLIAM H. WILDER that his life was not lived in vain, that his influence and deeds all made for the uplift and betterment of his fellow man, and his record of achievement both as a private citizen and a public official is one of which his constituents, his many friends, and his bereaved family may well feel proud.

## Address of Mr. Thacher, of Massachusetts

Mr. Speaker: William H. Wilder was born in 1855 in Maine. A brief glance of his life will show his characteristic energy and industry. When he was 11 years old his family moved to Massachusetts, and he worked as a boy on a farm, attending school in winter. When he was 17 he went into mercantile business, and at the age of 29 he went into manufacturing.

During all his life he was a keen student and mastered not only his own business, but he found time to study carefully a wide range of subjects. When he was 45 years of age he began, what is somewhat remarkable for a man of that age, the study of law, and was subsequently admitted to the bar.

He found time to study some of the great economic questions of the present day, including the currency and the tariff. He visited Europe in 1909, 1911, and 1912, not as an idle tourist, but he found opportunity both for recreation and for study and reflection. During all of these years he was the head of a successful and large manufacturing business. In 1910 he turned his energies into a new field. He became the Republican candidate for Congress in the fourth Massachusetts district. He was elected to the Sixty-second and Sixty-third Congresses. While he was in Congress he served his constituents faithfully and conscientiously. His health began to fail in 1913. Sustained by his courage and pluck, he continued hard at work during the early part of the extra session of 1913. In spite of his indomitable energy and will he continued to fail. He died on September 11, 1913.

This is the brief record of the life of an active, busy man. He was no idler; he believed in work. From his

early days, when he worked as a boy on a farm, to the time when he sat in Congress he was always hard at work. He worked not for himself, but he showed his devotion and loyalty to everything that tended to the welfare of his town, State, and country. I understand that Mr. WILDER's religious affiliations were with the Congregational Church, a church whose history has been closely interwoven with that of New England since our colonial days. Whatever were his religious views, I think that he must have believed that to whatever creed one may belong the best way to practice one's religion is to live a useful and active service toward our brother man and our God.

## Address of Mr. Mitchell, of Massachusetts

Mr. Speaker: Just as the beautiful summer season was drawing to a close and the somber, melancholy days of autumn were at hand death came and struck down William H. Wilder in the full bloom of life, before the hoary blasts of the winter of life had come to weaken, to impair, to chill, and to deaden. The strong, vigorous, self-reliant, and aggressive man that for nearly half a century had made his own way, buffeted every storm, overcame many obstacles, and had arrived at a place of power and influence in the business world, honor and distinction in the political field, and of esteem and respect in his town, his State, and the Nation, fell. A family grieved at the loss of its head, its guide, and its protector; a town mourned at the departure of its leading citizen; a State regretted the loss of one of its best Representatives; and a Nation over its great Capitol lowered the American flag, respectfully marking his passing. And to-day in this hallowed chamber of the National Legislature the associates and colleagues of the deceased Congressman gather to pay their tribute of respect to the memory, the life, the character, and public services of Hon. William H. Wilder.

Many great men have come to Congress from the State of Maine. That State has played an important part in many fields of human effort. Her sons and daughters are a strong, vigorous, wholesome type of American citizenship. It was in this splendid State, in the city of Belfast, on May 14, 1855, that William H. Wilder first saw the light of day. The first 11 years of his life were spent there. Shortly after the close of the Civil War his parents moved to Massachusetts. The first year that he came to Massachusetts he began working, first on the farm during the

summer months and then wood chopping during the winter, getting what schooling he could during the autumn months of the year. This schooling ceased altogether as far as the country school was concerned when he was only 16 years of age. The following year, when only 17 years of age, he embarked in business for himself and continued as a constantly increasing employer of labor up to the date of his death. The boy who afterwards was to head a great business concern laid the foundation by mastering a trade. He became a painter and engaged in this business in its various branches. No employee worked harder than he; none was more courageous or more desirous of pleasing.

One phase of his work was the painting of church spires, and this sturdy young man knew no fear or faltered not at any task, however hazardous it might be, that came to him in his line of business. It is needless to say that the boy who became a toiler at the age of 11 found himself at the age of 29 the head and owner of a successful business. But, as he prospered, step by step, new fields beckoned to him and he had about made up his mind to dispose of his business and strike out for the West, where the ambitious and adventurous 30 or 40 years ago directed their footsteps. But Gardner, where he had been building a business, a name, and reputation, was beginning to recognize the latent powers of this young man, and his friends there induced him to remain and engage in a new business, offering greater opportunities and a wider field of development.

A partnership was formed and a new oil-stove company entered the field. It was at this time that the inventive brain of young WILDER began to revolutionize this business. It was at this time he launched forth in the field where were to be witnessed his greatest achievements. The history of our country reveals the fact that the brain of the New Englander, or Yankee, as he was called, was

indeed an inventive one. It has been said that "necessity is the mother of invention." New England, blest in many ways by God, offered not many opportunities with rock-bound coast and stony soil for the teeming thousands that began to people its hills and dales to eke a living from its bosom. Other ways must be found and the inventive genius began to manifest itself.

Time forbids and the occasion does not justify a further digression into a field that has brought fame, wealth, happiness, comfort, and prosperity not alone to her people but to all the people of the civilized world. Let it suffice that the ingenuity, industry, and enterprise have placed that great section of the country in the very van of American States.

Nature had been kind to WILLIAM H. WILDER. It gave him a great, big body and big mind. With tireless energy he engaged in the new business, and his brain began to fashion in form inventions in the business that afterwards brought fame, influence, wealth, and prosperity. Not a year elapsed but what some invention of his creative brain was patented, and up to the time of his death some 50 had been granted to him by the Patent Office. Others more familiar may trace his business career in detail. One may speak of the crashing of his great enterprise to the ground, its rehabilitation and manly settlement of all obligations, dollar for dollar. Another may tell of the disastrous fire that wiped out his plant and of his mighty task of rebuilding without a day's cessation of business. Some may tell of fights to preserve the integrity of his patents, but all will unite in saying that his business was a great success, honestly conducted, independently maintained, and to-day flourishing and growing, although the creative brain and guiding hand are stilled in death.

Fourteen years before his death Mr. WILDER took up the study of law, and he pursued his studies with all the diligence, regularity, and success that characterized his other

efforts. He was admitted to practice in the various United States courts and also in the District of Columbia. He felt keen satisfaction over his success in the law, because it was obtained in a study snatched from the busy hours of days crowded with a constantly expanding business.

But Mr. WILDER had another side that has been manifesting itself for some years. Always interested somewhat in public affairs as they pertained to his town, his State, and the Nation, he now turned his mind, his thoughts, and his ambition toward service in the Congress of the United States. His struggle, his efforts, and his final success in being elected was only another indication that "Where there is a will there is a way," and that despite every obstacle this man of fixed determination, inflexible mind, strong conviction, and ceaseless energy was chosen to represent a great constituency in the very heart of the old Bay State.

His achievements here find eloquent recognition from those who were long associated with him in this chamber. They form a bright page in the legislative annals of this great body. His service covered one term and several months of another. His extensive business dealings, his grasp of the great business questions of the day, his wide reading and studies pursued in many fields, his journeys to every section of this country and to the great cities of the Old World, his ready sympathy, wide experience, the tireless industry of the man, and the confidence of the people of his district made him a strong and impressive figure in the House.

His successor has covered many phases of his business, social, political, and religious life. I speak of him as an associate, as a neighbor, almost, and as a distinguished citizen of Massachusetts. I knew the strength of his lance, the quality of his mettle, the aggressiveness of his nature, the bigness of his heart, the generosity of his impulses, and the sturdiness of his character. I grieve over his de-

parture. I sympathize with his family, his town, and his State. The memory of that beautiful Sabbath afternoon will never be effaced from my mind as I saw surrounding his bier the humble and the lowly, the rich and the powerful, the captain of industry and the laborer in the factory, the business associates, the brothers in the societies in which he held membership, the representatives of the town, of the Commonwealth, and of the Nation. I heard ringing in my ears the words of the clergyman as he spoke feelingly, simply, and truly of this son of Gardner. I saw the tear-stained faces and felt the glow of affection and of sympathy that pervaded all, and I believed that this good and faithful servant who had laboriously toiled upward and onward over the rugged road of life had done the Master's work well and faithfully and had gone to a reward that passeth understanding.

May his struggles, his sacrifices, and his achievements prove an inspiration and encouragement to American youth, to the end that this great Republic may continue its splendid mission for good for all the people in all the years that are to come.

## Address of Mr. Rogers, of Massachusetts

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. William H. Wilder, the Representative in Congress of the third Massachusetts district, died September 11, 1913, in the 59th year of his age. It becomes my duty and privilege, at this memorial service of the body of which he was an honored Member, to refer to the loss which the House has sustained in his death.

Mr. Wilder was a man nearly twice as old as I am—indeed, his son and I were in Harvard together; and I had never met him until last April, when I came to Washington for the special session of the Sixty-third Congress. It may, therefore, for these two reasons seem somewhat presumptuous for one so much younger, without even the excuse of long acquaintance, to add his voice to the many voices which, with so much better right, are to-day referring to Mr. Wilder's career.

But from the first day of the session Mr. Wilder seemed to extend to me an almost paternal interest. Time after time, day after day, we would sit side by side during the long debates, and he would, out of the fullness of his experience, tell me something of his scheme of life, something of what he had undergone, and something of his aspirations for the future. He did not hesitate to speak of the fact that he was afflicted with an incurable disease, and that the end was certain to come at no very remote period, whether it might be a few months, or perchance a few years, in the future. Time and again, during the luncheon hour, I have watched him eat but a small fraction of the amount which his hearty appetite would have permitted him to enjoy. Yet, in thus subjecting himself to the insistence of his physician, I never heard him utter

one word of complaint. And this characteristic, relatively unimportant in itself, I like to think was typical of the whole character of the man. I have referred to his relating to me some of the incidents of his career; I always fancied that in what he said he was seeking, though very guardedly, to convey a suggestion which the older man knew would be or ought to be useful to the younger. I remember, for example, that one day when we were chatting a third Member of the House came to us and told us gleefully how he had succeeded in procuring for himself, through methods perhaps a trifle sharp, but yet certainly not dishonest, a larger share of a certain distribution than would have come to him otherwise. When the man left us alone, Mr. WILDER said to me, "Rogers, that sort of thing does not pay; I have been watching the men who do it for a good many years, and I never saw one yet who did not suffer as a result, both in his own moral fiber and in the esteem with which he was regarded by his fellows."

No Member of the House appeared more rugged in health than did Mr. WILDER; powerful of figure, sturdy in speech as in appearance, no man was a truer product of the best in our splendid New England civilization. Through the redistricting of Massachusetts in 1912 it chanced that 18 of the towns which, as part of the fourth district, Mr. WILDER had represented in the Sixty-second Congress, are now a part of the fifth district, which I represent. As I went up and down those communities a year and a half ago, it was a pleasure to observe how generally Mr. WILDER was known by their citizens; and it was a greater pleasure to learn how universally he was respected—aye, even loved—by every element. His simple strength of character, his unaffected facility in meeting all sorts and conditions of men endeared him in an unusual way to his constituents. This circumstance and the fidelity with which he had cared for the wants, great and small, of his people made the task of his successor indeed

a difficult one. And yet the service has been an inspiration, too.

The last time I ever saw Mr. Wilder in life was one beautiful balmy afternoon last summer, when, as I was passing through the park on the banks of the Potomac, I saw him and his wife, to whom he was devoted and of whom he loved to talk, sitting there in the sunshine. The peace of his expression and the wave of the hand with which he greeted me as I passed will be the memory of the man which I shall cherish through the years.

## Address of Mr. Morrison, of Indiana

Mr. Speaker: As it was my good fortune to be associated in our work as Members of the House with William Henry Wilder, who was and is and ever is to be our friend, and in honor of whose memory we are met to-day, I have craved permission to speak briefly of his life and character.

His was a mind and disposition well suited to the varied problems with which a legislator must deal and the countless duties that are cast upon him daily and almost hourly while the Congress is in session. He thought in a straight line, refused to be carried off his feet by every shifting wind of doctrine that chanced to blow, and finally reached a conclusion which he was ready and willing to defend against every challenge.

His life work had given him an ideal preparation for his labors here, for here we face duties that require us to have practical knowledge of industry and commerce, of the farm, the store, the factory, the mine, of human nature, of human conditions and conditions inhuman, of law and the history of its evolution, and of practically everything that affects the Republic or its people. Only a myriad-minded man could be equipped for every such duty, but many men have by wider experience been fitted for a wider range and larger fraction of their duties here. Mr. Wilder was one of those thus more widely schooled and more fully equipped.

He was born at Belfast, Me., May 14, 1855. In 1866 he moved to Massachusetts, the State that learned to honor him and which he honored. Until he was 17 years of age his life was spent on the farm and in school. He then gave himself to mercantile pursuits until he reached his

twenty-ninth year. He next devoted himself to manufacturing and invention, more than half a hundred patents having been granted to him for the products of his own genius, skill, and patient toil. He studied law and became learned in the profession, his special interest in that line of work leading him to become an expert in patent questions, proceedings, and litigation.

I doubt not that it was his special knowledge and peculiar qualifications for the work that led to his appointment as a member of the Committee on Patents, on which he served during the period of his membership in the Congress. In no other capacity could he have been intrusted with greater responsibility or rendered a greater service. It was President Lincoln who said that our patent system is intended to "add the fuel of self-interest to the fire of genius." He who has studied the question most knows best that the American patent system lies at the very foundation of American industrial and commercial supremacy.

As a member of the same committee, having no special knowledge of the patent system or of the questions pending before the committee, but having a lively appreciation of the immense importance of the entire subject, I found him able and willing to give patient and sympathetic aid. I felt secure in his knowledge and in his sound judgment. I owe him much and have repaid him nothing.

Mr. WILDER was a man of broad vision and culture. His interest ran far beyond the limits of his own employment, profession, or other gainful pursuits in life. In his travels he visited the countries of the Old World, studying many things of general interest, among which were the tariff, banking and currency, and the rising and falling value of the dollar. He returned to renew his studies again and again.

That he had mechanical taste and skill is evidenced by the fact that he held a license as a steam yacht's master.

In the fraternal world he found his chiefest pleasure in the ancient and honorable order of Free and Accepted Masons, in which he was advanced to the rank of Knight Templar. Though born too late in the century to be a soldier in the Civil War, he was an honorary member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In all the relations of life he found his rightful place and measured up to the demands of every duty. As husband and father he was true to all the members of his household. Sons and daughters were given to him. They survive him and have great reason to be proud of the life and character of the father whom they have loved and lost awhile. A widow mourns his death, but her sorrow for his death must be tempered by deathless gratitude for the fine qualities and rich fruitage of his life.

As a thoughtful and earnest man we would expect to find in him definite convictions on that subject which is the most universal fact and experience in human life—religion. He had his convictions. In the matter of church affiliation he was a strict and devoted member of the Congregational Church. He found it in his heart, and he took the time to assume the responsibilities and perform the labors of the superintendent of his Sunday school. I know no finer employment for a broad-minded, big-hearted, busy man of the world. I know of no finer man for such a task. The earnest, thoughtful man who faces the members of his Sunday school once each week may become of advanced years, but he can never grow old. The last time I had the pleasure of a conversation with him we sat at lunch together, and from a short preliminary talk of the questions likely to be involved in the bills before our committee drifted out into a free and frank discussion of things great and fundamental in life, of its deep and final philosophy, and of the inevitable end.

He was even then within the tightening grasp of a malady that is catalogued as fatal. He was standing con-

sciously in the presence of the probability of impending death. In that presence he was serene and unafraid. He did not yield himself a willing subject to enfeebling fears. He rather took good counsel of his hopes and courage. He rejoiced in the possibility of prolonged life with its continuing privilege of efficient and satisfactory service. I knew, less from what he said than from the manner of the saying, that he had long been accustomed to live in the conscious presence of two worlds, the world that is and the world that is to be. A sojourner in the one, in love with its joys and its beauties, its privileges and its duties, he had learned that his birthright was citizenship in the other, and that he could find no abiding place until he had entered into his goodly heritage. For such a man life holds all of joy that is possible to mortals. He is grateful for life every day, and yet he is able to contemplate death without a shudder and meet its issues serene and satisfied. When I try to fathom the thoughts of such a man, I am not tempted to believe that he had solved the mystery of life or the mystery of death. I am constrained to believe that he accepted both mysteries without the dreads and doubts that mystery so often casts into the minds and over the very souls of men less able to grasp an idea or discern a truth.

When a thoughtful man contemplates the vaster universe revealed to us by telescope and microscope, he can not but adopt as his own the sentiment of the German scientist who said to the young men in his class:

> Gentlemen, if the universe and our planet ever come to be governed by a wisdom, science, and penetration on a plane no higher than we mortals are capable of understanding and mastering, then I would most fervently wish to be out of it and in a safer place.

And so I fancy that our brother accepted the mystery of life and the mystery of death as assurances that the universe is in safe hands. Only the Infinite can grasp

the infinite, and the Infinite must ever be a mystery to finite minds.

To the man of clear and disciplined mind such mysteries but furnish occasion for the firmer faith, for which he thanks God and takes courage.

From the mere hints I have given as to the scope and qualities of the mind, character, and life of William Henry Wilder it is manifest that his was a full, well-rounded character, and that he lived the abundant life. For what he was and what he did we shall all hold him in reverent and hallowed memory. Inasmuch as there came to me a distinct personal advantage of his friendship, and there flowed into my life by virtue of our association a finer inspiration and renewed courage, I shall ever bear to him a lively sense of deathless gratitude.

## Address of Mr. Peters, of Massachusetts

Mr. Speaker: William Henry Wilder was a Member of this House in the last Congress. The delicate state of his health was the occasion of much concern to all his colleagues, but I for one did not fully realize the danger which overshadowed his service here, and his untimely death was a great shock to me.

William Henry Wilder was the type of man who arouses in Americans the greatest praise and admiration. In boyhood he experienced the hardships of hard manual work on a farm in the western part of our Commonwealth, and he was limited in his opportunity for self-education to a short attendance during the winter months at a local school.

When a young man he became interested in mercantile life and developed a considerable business as the result of his own energy and perseverance. His ambition to increase his store of knowledge was a lasting characteristic, as witnessed by his study of law when a man of 40 and his successful admission to the bar, which resulted in a wide practice.

To the American mind one who has a thirst for knowledge and who is also successful in the business world needs but one further attribute to command its complete admiration. We esteem highly the man who is strong enough to open the way to knowledge and who can at the same time make himself a factor in our business or professional world. Our admiration has never failed to be doubly stimulated when that same person proves himself to be a good citizen—one who shows a real patriotic interest in the problems of his own day and who unselfishly works for their solution. William Henry Wilder pos-

sessed all these qualifications, and his selection as Representative in Congress by the district in which he lived and worked is indicative of that high esteem in which he was held by those who were most intimately acquainted with him.

Though his service in this body was comparatively brief, his uprightness and integrity were evident to all his associates here. His high sense of right and his unselfishness and his clear judgment were well known to all. His kindliness and sincerity made him a friend whose loss it is not easy to forget.

It is meet that we should come together here in this place to pay our highest tribute to his memory.

## Address of Mr. Oldfield, of Arkansas

Mr. Speaker: It is always a sad and solemn occasion when we come together for the purpose of commemorating the deeds of a departed colleague and friend. William Henry Wilder, late a Representative in Congress from the State of Massachusetts, was born in Belfast, Me., May 14, 1855, and removed to Massachusetts at the age of 11 years. He worked on the farm during the summer and attended the public schools in the winter until he was 17 years of age. He then entered the mercantile business and remained in that business until he reached the age of 29 years. He then engaged in the manufacturing business in the city of Gardner, where he lived until his death, on the 11th day of September, 1913. It was due to his energy and genius that the manufacture of oil stoves, which is an important part of the manufacturing life of the city of Gardner, was established and successfully carried on there.

Mr. Wilder was elected to the Sixty-second Congress on the Republican ticket by the narrow margin of 130 votes and was reelected to the Sixty-third Congress by more than 3,000 plurality, which shows that his services in Congress were appreciated by his constituents, and therefore his popularity was increasing. While Mr. Wilder was a stanch, and, I might say, partisan Republican, and a man of strong convictions, yet he accorded to others equal sincerity of conviction, and his Republicanism and partisanship were not of an offensive character.

At the beginning of his service in the House he was, at his own request, assigned to a place on the Committee on Patents. We served on the committee together during his entire service in the House, and I found him to be a most

lovable and companionable man. He was very much interested in the work of the committee, and I do not recall that he missed a single meeting of the committee during his entire service until his health began to fail and he was admonished by his physician that he must take a rest.

In passing, I might say that Mr. WILDER, in addition to being a successful business man, was also a lawyer and inventor. During his career as a manufacturer and inventor he had granted to him by the Patent Office more than 50 patents of utility. He was really an expert in patent matters; hence was a very valuable member of the committee.

Mr. WILDER did not speak often, but what he said attracted attention because of his wide experience, thorough study, and sincere conviction regarding the subjects discussed. In the later years of his life he traveled extensively, studying financial and other economic questions, and he discussed these questions on the floor of this House and in private conversation in a very entertaining and interesting manner.

He came from sturdy New England stock and was early in life thrown upon his own resources, and by indomitable energy and determination his efforts were crowned with success. He had the confidence of his constituents and the admiration of his colleagues, and I shall long remember the many kindnesses and courtesies shown me by WILLIAM HENRY WILDER.

He was cheerful in disposition and optimistic in his ideals, and was at all times ready and willing to render a service to his friends or the country. Those who knew him intimately for a great many years testify that his home life was ideal, and that he was a kind husband, loving father, and a generous friend. The world is better because of his life and example.

## Address of Mr. Winslow, of Massachusetts

Mr. Speaker: In the death of Hon. William H. Wilder, late Member of Congress representing the third Massachusetts congressional district, our Commonwealth and our country have lost a man whose devotion to duty was of the highest order.

Mr. Wilder was a Member of the Sixty-second Congress and had entered upon his duties in the Sixty-third. Unfortunately his health began to fail during his first session, and he continued to lose strength constantly until the time of his death.

It was not my good fortune to have intimate acquaintance with Mr. Wilder until the beginning of the Sixty-third Congress, but from that time on until the end of his life we became closer and closer friends, and it was my honor to receive from him many of his confidences, both as regards his public service and his private cares.

From the rather intimate acquaintance so formed and developed I was able to learn reasonably well the aims, purposes, and ambitions of the man.

Although at this time I am called to speak in a certain official way of Mr. Wilder, and so to give testimony as to his faithfulness to his trust, it is, however, more as a personal friend that I would pay my tribute to his memory.

He told me at one time and another of his experiences in life, with particular reference to his career in public service and his experiences in commercial undertakings. In the latter line he was conspicuously able to show to those who had to do with him, and to onlookers, the metal of which he was made.

Good fortune smiled on him at times and again misfortune overtook him. In all cases he proved himself the man.

In the sunshine of success he was generous almost to a fault, as many benefited by his hand could bear witness. In the shadow of adversity he carried his own burdens with credit to himself and in justice to all.

Mr. WILDER was a man of many parts and excelled in various fields of study, investigation, and occupation.

At the hour when all seemed to be ready for him to perform a public work into which he might bring his unusual talents and display his exceptional energy we learned of his last illness and his death.

Mr. WILDER was a modest man who made no vulgar parade of his attainments. Those who knew him best admired him most, but unfortunately, like many another gifted beyond the ordinary lot of man, he was retiring and overmodest.

In his home town he was strong and beloved. At the House of Representatives of the United States those who had come to know him appreciated him and now those of us who are left hold his memory in high esteem.

He has left to his family, and particularly to the sons who succeed to his commercial undertakings, an inheritance of great value and an example of a man who in the hour of peace was tranquil and dependable and in the hour of trial courageous and righteous.

## Address of Mr. Gardner, of Massachusetts

Mr. Speaker: It was my great privilege to serve in Congress with the late William Henry Wilder, and it is my sad duty to-day to offer a brief tribute to his memory.

Mr. Wilder was born in Maine, but moved with his parents to Massachusetts as a boy and there received a public-school education. He became a citizen of Massachusetts and early entered a mercantile life, and by intelligent and unwearying toil rose to the head of a large and prosperous business. Unlike many men of affairs, he was continually educating himself in matters outside his profession, and found time, among other things, to study law. He was admitted to the bar when close to 50, in itself a sufficiently remarkable action.

He was elected to Congress in 1910, and was even at that time in very indifferent health; but his indomitable will overcame physical discomfort, and he soon became an honored and useful Member of the House. He made a name for himself both on the floor and in committee, and when the time came for reelection was urged to run again, though his health by that time was very bad. But his desire to serve the public was stronger than any personal consideration, and he entered the campaign and was reelected.

It must seem to us that had he lived there was for him a long career of service to the State and a life full of years and honors; but an all-wise Providence had otherwise decreed, and in the prime of manhood Death's hand was laid upon his shoulder. He did not flinch; his courage was as high in that supreme moment as at any time in

his life, and, with a smile on his lips, he answered, "I am here."

Then mourn we not beloved dead,
  Even while we come to weep and pray;
The happy spirit far hath fled,
  To brighter realms of endless day.
Immortal Hope dispels the gloom—
An angel sits beside the tomb.

## Address of Mr. Treadway, of Massachusetts

Mr. Speaker: My first meeting with the late Congressman Wilder was a very informal one. I happened to be passing through Gardner, Mass., and desired information about roads to adjoining towns. Stopping in front of a manufacturing plant, I interrupted a man busily engaged in the directing of a group of men at work about the premises. He took especial pains to give me the information I desired, and I proceeded on my way with the kindliest of feeling toward the man willing to stop important work to furnish casual information to a total stranger. Surely it would have been the last thought to have come to me that within a very few years it would be my painful duty to announce to the House of Representatives the death of this gentleman with whom I was destined to be associated as colleague.

Later the same spirit of friendliness was displayed when visiting Washington I came on this floor for the first time before taking my seat as a Member. Congressman Wilder sat beside me and endeavored to give me all enlightenment he could as to method of procedure and duties of a Congressman. During the few months we were associated together as Members the same kindly spirit was ever present, showing that it was a natural trait of Mr. Wilder's to be of assistance to his friends.

His success in life can be regarded as another example of the development of American manhood through honesty of purpose, strict attention to duties of business, and fair dealing with his associates. Without ostentation he was ever alert to the needs of his district and faithful in the discharge of his obligations to his constituents. By study and travel he fitted himself for special work

wherein his service was of great value to his own district and the Nation. Others who were longer associated with him than I have spoken of these services.

The great respect in which he was held by his intimates and neighbors was shown at his home in Gardner, where we attended the last sad rites. The entire town seemed anxious to show its love and respect for its distinguished citizen. An impressive funeral oration, a spacious home filled with mourners, and the streets lined with sympathizers on that beautiful autumnal day all bore testimony of the love and respect felt for him. Surely Representative WILDER was a typical example of the best of American manhood, and his widow and family have the consolation of this monument to his memory.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question now is on agreeing to the resolutions.

The resolutions were agreed to.

Then, in accordance with the resolutions heretofore adopted (at 3 o'clock and 11 minutes p. m.), the House adjourned until to-morrow, Monday, February, 9, 1914, at 12 o'clock noon.

## Proceedings in the Senate

Monday, *September 15, 1913.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by J. C. South, its Chief Clerk, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. William Henry Wilder, late a Representative from the State of Massachusetts, and transmitted resolutions of the House thereon.

The Presiding Officer. The Chair lays before the Senate resolutions of the House of Representatives, which will be read.

The Secretary read the resolutions, as follows:

In the House of Representatives,
*September 11, 1913.*

*Resolved,* That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. William H. Wilder, a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

*Resolved,* That a committee of 20 Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

*Resolved,* That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions, and that the necessary expense in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

*Resolved,* That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Mr. Gallinger. Mr. President, in the absence of the Senators from Massachusetts, I offer the following resolutions.

The resolutions were read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

*Resolved,* That the Senate has heard with deep sensibility the announcement of the death of Hon. William Henry Wilder, late a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

*Resolved,* That a committee of six Senators be appointed by the Vice President, to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives, to attend the funeral of the deceased.

*Resolved,* That the Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

The Presiding Officer appointed under the second resolution as the committee on the part of the Senate Mr. Lodge, Mr. Weeks, Mr. Myers, Mr. Walsh, Mr. McLean, and Mr. Catron.

SATURDAY, *February 27, 1915.*

Mr. KERN. Mr. President, I desire to ask unanimous consent for the adoption of the following order:

That at not later than 6.15 o'clock this evening the Senate will take a recess until 10.45 a. m. to-morrow, when memorial exercises will be held commemorative of the lives and public services of WILLIAM H. WILDER, late Representative from the State of Massachusetts, and Forrest Goodwin, late Representative from the State of Maine, at the conclusion of which memorial exercises the Senate will recess until 11 o'clock Monday morning.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Is there any objection to the order? The Chair hears none, and the order is adopted.

SUNDAY, *February 28, 1915.*

(*Legislative day of Friday, February 19, 1915.*)

The Senate reassembled at 10 o'clock and 45 minutes a. m., on the expiration of the recess.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair lays before the Senate resolutions of the House of Representatives, which will be read.

The Secretary read the resolutions, as follows:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
*February 8, 1914.*

*Resolved,* That the business of the House be now suspended, that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. WILLIAM HENRY WILDER, late a Member of this House from the State of Massachusetts.

*Resolved,* That as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the deceased and in recognition of his distinguished public career the House at the conclusion of these exercises shall stand adjourned.

*Resolved,* That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

*Resolved,* That the Clerk send a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

Mr. LODGE. Mr. President, I offer the following resolutions.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The resolutions will be read.

The Secretary read the resolutions (S. Res. 555), as follows:

*Resolved,* That the Senate expresses its profound sorrow on account of the death of the Hon. WILLIAM H. WILDER, late a Member of the House of Representatives from the State of Massachusetts.

*Resolved,* That the business of the Senate be now suspended in order that fitting tributes may be paid his high character and distinguished public services.

*Resolved,* That the Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to the House of Representatives and to the family of the deceased.

## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

### Address of Mr. Lodge, of Massachusetts

Mr. President: The death of William H. Wilder, Representative from the third Massachusetts district, ended a career which was essentially and typically American. It is the history of a man who by his own efforts and without the aid of a classical or technical education gained for himself a prominent place in the business community of the State, and who also became active and well known in public affairs and was returned to Congress by the people of his district.

Although born in Maine, his parents moved to Massachusetts when Mr. Wilder was a boy of 11, and from that time he was forced to depend on his own exertions for support. He first found employment in farm work during the summer and in wood chopping during the winter, and it was only during the few weeks of autumn that he was able to attend the schools of the vicinity. Later he worked in the factories at Gardner, gaining that knowledge of machinery which was to be of such value to him, and taking advantage of the few opportunities for schooling which presented themselves. But these opportunities ceased altogether when he was 16, and at 17 he entered business for himself as a painter and dealer in paints. Even at this early age he showed the same qualities of determination and perseverance, the same ability to gain a full and complete knowledge of the subject which interested him, which contributed so largely to his success in later life. Leaving this business, he engaged in the manufacture of oil stoves, and in 1890, when only 35, he became

treasurer of a large company with plants in various parts of the United States. This project met with disaster, and five years later he found himself compelled to start anew in business with a burden of debt of more than $100,000 hanging over him. He refused to assent to insolvency proceedings and with undiminished courage started to build up again the wrecked enterprises. He was not content to be simply the manufacturer, the employer of labor, but set himself to perfect in every way the product of his factories. One improvement followed another, and when he died Mr. WILDER held more than 50 patents, the result of that intense application which was so characteristic of him.

It was his experiences in this line of work which led him to take up the study of patent law at the age of 45, and, having begun, it was but natural to a man of his character to go thoroughly into the subject of the law. He was admitted to the bar and did not rest until he had become proficient in patent, corporation, and bankruptcy law and was able to appear in court in regard to all matters in which he was interested. This in itself was an achievement for a man of his age, but during this time he was going steadily forward, building up the business in which his interest was centered, perfecting the output of his mills, and paying, with interest, every dollar of the obligations which rested upon him.

Although the cares of business and of the law absorbed much of his time, his mind was not given to these problems to the exclusion of all else. His interest extended to national problems, especially currency and the tariff, and he studied them with the same thoroughness, the same intense application, which he applied to everything which he undertook. Feeling that he could come to a better understanding of the currency problem by personal study of the systems of other countries, Mr. WILDER traveled widely abroad, meeting those who were connected with the great banking institutions, and forming

his own conclusions as to the best method of meeting the pressing needs of our own financial system. He studied the tariff in the same way, minutely and thoroughly, striving to master as far as one man could this intricate and complex question.

When, therefore, the people of his district called him to represent them at Washington he came to his duties here with a mind trained to meet new problems and with a determination to devote all his energy and time to the service of his district and of his country. During his first term his health began to fail, and the disease which had fastened upon him gradually weakened his strength and made it harder and harder for him to attend to his duties, but weakness and pain could not change his character, and, until the last, he still endeavored to familiarize himself with every side of legislation which was pending before Congress and to understand and judge fairly the many matters which came before him in the course of his work as a Representative. With few advantages he had made himself prosperous and successful, with only the simplest education he had become a lawyer of standing, and the talents which he possessed he had, during his last years, turned conscientiously and fully to the service of his country. In whatever he undertook he did his best, and in his death his district and his State have lost a faithful, diligent, and hard-working public servant.

## Address of Mr. Weeks, of Massachusetts

Mr. President: The reasons why men enter a political life vary greatly, but it is safe to say that some of those who make the most useful, and at the same time the least conspicuous, Representatives are the men who have had an active business career, have measurably succeeded in it and, having developed habits of industry and a public spirit without developing unusual powers of acquisitiveness, are led to assume office as a public duty and with a sincere desire to serve their Government which, in many cases, has been more or less intimately connected with some of the instrumentalities which they have employed in their business affairs.

Such a man was the late Representative William Henry Wilder, who represented for parts of two terms the third Massachusetts district in the House of Representatives. A son of Maine, with many of the strong qualities which are found in the native stock of that State and especially among those who have been associated with its sea-faring life, he became a resident of Massachusetts in boyhood, received his education in the common schools, and long before reaching his majority was an employer of labor, a relation which he maintained during his active business life.

One of the governmental functions with the results of which there is almost universal satisfaction has been our patent system, enabling those of inventive genius to develop and protect their ideas so that there has been a very general incentive to produce labor-saving machinery and a very great number of articles which have added to the comfort of the human race. Mr. Wilder inherited a capacity for developing new ideas, and during a long

business career was granted no less than 50 patents having to do very largely with the development of oil stoves and appurtenances connected with them. Some of his ideas in this business were revolutionary in their character, and it can almost be said with absolute correctness that he was the father of that branch of the business as conducted to-day, not only in the ideas governing the character of the articles used, but in developing the business as a manufacturer and distributor of his products. In this respect he differed greatly from a very large class of inventive geniuses who have little or no business capacity and as a result are unable to profit to any considerable extent through their inventions.

His career, however, as a business man was not one of uninterrupted success, and an incident connected with it shows better than could otherwise be demonstrated his high sense of personal integrity even when there were no legal claims. As I have said, he early became connected with the oil-stove industry, but for reasons over which he had no control the organization as originally formed became so involved that it was necessary to apply for a receivership. In the reorganization which took place Mr. WILDER took over a very considerable part of the business of the previous company, assuming a very large obligation in so doing, for which he was not directly or indirectly responsible, perfected the patent which controlled the product being manufactured, perfected the business organization, and, as a result, paid every dollar of the indebtedness for which he had pledged himself with 6 per cent interest, and in the following years accumulated a considerable property.

Speaking of his inventive genius, a well-known firm of patent attorneys has recently written me relating to his patents and they closed their letter with this sentence:

> We say without qualification that he was one of the most brilliant inventors that we have ever known in a long practice.

Having put on a sound foundation his own personal business, Mr. WILDER directed his activities in other directions, studying law and being admitted to the bar and to practice before all the courts when he was about 50 years of age. He became largely interested in financial matters and financial legislation, making a trip to Europe for the purpose of informing himself of the methods practiced by European banks, and he later became a candidate for Congress, where he was serving acceptably to his district at the time of his death. While that service was helpful in many directions, the best results were found in the work which he did in the Committee on Patents. It is not possible for the public to understand the benefits which are derived from personal experience in considering such intricate matters as our patent laws involve, and in this respect alone the service which Mr. WILDER performed in this one committee would have been sufficient to make his term in Congress distinctive.

Soon after entering Congress he was attacked by a malady which he knew quite well must be fatal in its results. However, he did not cease his activities but continued his work until the very end. I think his great regret in giving up work was that he had not had more time to give to the Government the efficient and faithful service which a man of his years and experience might have looked forward to with certainty. Massachusetts has not been lacking in citizens of the kind represented by Mr. WILDER, and he stands high among those who have added materially to the State's industrial development and who have set a high example of personal integrity.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions submitted by the senior Senator from Massachusetts.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

Mr. BURLEIGH. Mr. President, I submit the following resolution and ask for its adoption.

The resolution was read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

*Resolved*, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of Mr. WILDER and Mr. Goodwin the Senate do now take a recess until 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Senate thereupon (at 11 o'clock and 25 minutes a. m.) took a recess until to-morrow, Monday, March 1, 1915, at 11 o'clock a. m.

## WILLIAM HENRY WILDER

[From the Gardner (Mass.) Journal of September 18, 1913.]

William H. Wilder was born May 14, 1855, in Belfast, Me. His father and father's father were mechanics and millmen, while his mother was a school-teacher.

He lived in his native place until 11 years of age, the family removing to Massachusetts in the spring of 1866.

During the first three years following the removal he worked on a farm, went to school in the winter, and after the long fall country school term was employed in the woods chopping. The next year he worked for a farmer who owned a card mill, quite a portion of the time being spent in the factory. Thus his knowledge of practical machinery began at the age of 14 years. The next year he was employed by a millman, who also owned a farm and who prepared chair stock for the Gardner factories. His schooling was finished in the country school when he was 16, the last of his work being done without much assistance from the teachers.

### STARTING IN LIFE

The next few years were spent in the paint trade in the summer and in the Gardner shops in the winter. He went into business for himself when he was 17 years old and has been an employer ever since. He followed this business in Gardner until 1884, when he was 29 years of age, and there are few of the meetinghouse spires thereabouts which were erected at that time but what he has climbed. He acquired the business thoroughly in all of its branches, including house work, graining, paper hanging, decorating and fresco painting, sign and carriage work, and at the time he retired from the business had the largest store of its kind in the vicinity, operating a store covering the paint-trade lines, as well as stocks of crockery, glassware, silverware, and paper hangings. For some years he had desired a larger field of endeavor and

he decided to close out this retail business, his purpose being to go West, but friends induced him to stay in Gardner, and the American Oil Stove Co. was formed—a partnership consisting of the late Alvin M. Greenwood, Calvin H. Hill, and Mr. WILDER. It was through their efforts that the oil-stove business was brought to Gardner.

In the first years of the partnership, beginning in 1884, Mr. WILDER made the patterns and all the other parts, there being only two operators at that time. Beginning at the bottom of the business, Mr. WILDER knew every feature pertaining to it. He has made and directed personally tools, dies, special machines, and has supervised and directed the improvements with such diligence that for a period of 20 years, up to 1909, not a year elapsed that at least one patent was not issued to him, he having taken out over 50 in all. His father, Jonas B. Wilder, was the inventor of the first sidehill plow, originally devised for working on a sidehill, now familiarly known as the swivel plow, which every farmer uses. Strange as it may seem, the last patent his father took out was issued the year before the first patent the son secured.

His partners, Messrs. Greenwood and Hill, were connected with Heywood Bros. & Co., manufacturers of chairs. In those early days the management of the oil-stove business was left to Mr. WILDER; he was his own salesman and bookkeeper and general handy man. Some people wonder why he had such a firm grip and understanding of everything that pertains to the business, but when these activities are considered it is plain enough.

In the fall of 1889 and early in 1890 the oil-stove business of the country lapsed into a precarious condition on account of several contests that were going on in reference to fundamental patents. This, however, had been anticipated by Mr. WILDER during his first five years in the business, with the result that he had taken out patents covering devices that did not infringe patents of the belligerents, with the result that the American Oil Stove Co. was about the only free concern out of 12 or 15 oil stove interests, and in the consolidation of the Central Oil Gas Stove Co. Mr. WILDER was a prominent factor. Thus Mr. WILDER 20 years ago asserted the quality of

independence in thought and action which was always a leading characteristic of the man.

Mr. Wilder became treasurer of the large company, and the headquarters were removed to its factory at Florence, Mass., there being others at Greenwich, Conn., and Jackson, Mich., with warehouses at Boston, New York, and Chicago. The business of this concern was over three-quarters of a million dollars a year, about 500 men being employed. Mr. Wilder carried these various interests through the panic of 1892–1894, but because of some differences arising in the management which Mr. Wilder and his friends could not adjust, an assignment was made in the fall of 1895. This disaster Mr. Wilder opposed, believing it to be wholly unnecessary. He was thought up to this time to have a competence, but this disaster left him with scarcely a dollar when he was 40 years old, and $50,000 of his own debts and even a larger amount that he had indorsed for those who were co-operating and working with him. He was recommended by many of his best friends to go into insolvency, but he did not seem to be built that way and he paid 100 cents on the dollar to every person who held his obligation, although before he was able to pay anything the interest had added nearly half as much more. He had, however, two friends more sagacious than others, both old men, and the truth of the old saying was affirmed, "Old men for counsel and young men for war." One said, "Brother Wilder, this seeming disaster isn't going to harm you; gather up the fragments and try again." The other said, "Mr. Wilder, put up a high-toned reorganization and plenty of your friends will support you."

### SURMOUNTING DIFFICULTIES

Mr. Wilder was offered the Gardner plant providing he could get not less than $150,000 out of $415,000 worth of creditors' claims to support his reorganization plan. Inside of a week he had obtained the cooperation of over $200,000. The reorganization was completed early in 1896. During the five years previous the big company developed on the market at great expense a line of goods on which others owned the ground patents and with

which the Gardner concern expected to continue, but just as the new company was organized beyond recall he learned that the patentees had sold him out. He had always insisted that he would never infringe the patents of others. He would furnish his own, but he would not infringe, although others were constantly using his patents. This desertion of supposed friends for whom he had done much meant a new disaster unless surmounted, and Lincoln's old maxim of "Root, hog, or die," was at hand. During the next year Mr. WILDER brought out the famous free level oil stove patents, the first being applied for in April and was granted in December, 1897, and within five years these patents had driven the stoves of the parties who sold him out off the market and everybody went to making the free-level stoves even though they did infringe Mr. WILDER's patents. Thus he faced the experience of being sold out, and refusing to use the patents of another, and under the extremity of his need, produced others, only to have the very ones who sold him out come back and pirate the new patents, and because of the infringement of these patents lawsuits have been prosecuted by Mr. WILDER ever since. And because of these experiences and others, he believed that our patent laws are not properly enforced and that the law as it stands does not protect a man in the exclusive use of the inventions he has discovered, as the Constitution provides.

### OVERCOMING DISASTER

April 19 (Patriot's Day), 1899, a disastrous fire visited the Gardner works of the company, destroying its main factory building. The power plant, however, and the foundry were saved. The factory was running on a holiday, being driven with orders.

The fire was so fierce that both the office and shipping room copies of the orders, amounting to over $30,000, were destroyed. This fire was on Wednesday. That afternoon, before the fire was put out, a number of the directors were gotten together in Gardner, the Chicago member happening to be in town and the Boston member being summoned, and they voted to rebuild before the fire was out. The foundry took off a melt Saturday of

the same week, and within one week's time a temporary building 170 feet long had been erected and workmen commenced building stoves. Mr. Wilder referred with great glee to the various and many devices that were coddled up as makeshifts with which to manufacture their goods, nearly all of the machinery having been destroyed.

Every man in the concern was kept employed who so desired, simply being informed that the best work possible would be furnished him. The morning following the fire Mr. Wilder gathered his 17 heads of departments in the upper story of the old three-story factory whose wall furnished the buttress which stayed the fire, and remarked to them that he wished until the 1st day of July the utmost loyalty and endeavor of every man. If there were any "fearful or afraid" they should "turn back" then, as he wished no desertions between that time and July 1. Not one man hesitated, and this is the kind of men Mr. Wilder had then and always had surround him, many of those very men being still in his enterprises.

Every customer on the company's ledger was notified that their orders were entirely destroyed and they were asked to send a copy if they had any placed that were unfilled. Nearly all responded and only a very few orders were canceled.

### AN EXAMPLE OF HIS PERSEVERANCE

Three years later came the great coal strike. It would hardly be expected that an oil-stove man would be very much interested in furnishing the people with coal when they would otherwise be forced to use his oil stoves. But he was reaping a large benefit from the enormous increase given the business, and the Gardner people were suffering for coal. None could be obtained. The story is too long to tell whys and wherefores, but Mr. Wilder was under the necessity of obtaining some coal if he would maintain even the opinion he held of himself. He went to 13 places in New York City, Jersey City, and New York State before he obtained the coveted prize. He started with $1,500 in gold and went to Vice President

Loomis of the Lackawanna Road. He had plenty of coal but was short of cars. He then went to General Manager Torrey of the Delaware & Hudson. He had plenty of cars but was short of coal. He pleaded with Mr. Torrey to let him have cars upon which to load Mr. Loomis's coal, but he would not yield, and so between coal and no cars and cars and no coal he was baffled for a moment. Finally he went to Utica, in every place working through some of the big traders whom he had known for years.

There were some 16 coal dealers in Utica, all of whom had plenty of coal for local consumption but were prohibited from sending out of the city. One dealer who sent two large loads down to New York early in the strike was unable to get a ton of coal afterwards. Mr. WILDER, however, in the first instance arranged with one of the big coal dealers to send him six or eight cars of coal, and left with him his $1,500. The dealer sent him three carloads, but the moment the coal combine knew that he was sending coal out of town six cars of coal that were started from the pockets were diverted and the dealer was told he could have no more coal if he sent it out of town. So other methods had to be devised by Mr. WILDER. He engaged Jones, a Utica truckman, to haul the coal for him. He secured a box car on the West Shore tracks, no coal cars being available, and the truckman went to each dealer and bought a van of coal, paying cash for it, which Mr. WILDER furnished. His instructions were to go around to the 16 coal dealers once, and when he had made the rounds to go a second time. This was kept up until 32 carloads of coal were put into Gardner in 31 days, and the famine was broken.

Several cars that were left unsold Mr. WILDER turned over to the dealers, as it was not his purpose to pursue his activities as soon as the Gardner dealers could handle the situation. The first carload of 25 tons of stove coal that came into Gardner went into 100 homes. The plan adopted was that each one desiring coal was to state how much they used, how much they had on hand, and how much they wanted, and they were allotted in each of the three villages of the town such as would best supply the immediate and most pressing needs. Nearly all, how-

ever, from the beginning were supplied with enough to prevent suffering. The coal was furnished to people at $10 a ton, delivered, when it was selling for $12 in Boston and Worcester. Mr. WILDER was offered at one time $2,500 for his coal deal, but this was not the first nor the last thing that Mr. WILDER had been in for other purposes than personal profit. No charge was made for his services or expense of those of the persons who accompanied him to keep him from despair on this memorable trip for coal, and who made the remark that they were willing to come home after they had been to three places, but that every time Mr. WILDER was refused he seemed the more determined to get coal. There was over $500 left after paying all bills, the total transaction amounting to over $8,000. This money was distributed among the churches through the pastors, Protestant and Catholic alike, in proportion to their adherents, for use among the needy.

During this coal strike every customer of the Central Oil & Gas Stove Co. was supplied with a proportionate part of the factory output, which was strained to its utmost without any appreciable relief to the situation generally. The concern could have sold everything it produced at full retail prices through its Boston store had it been willing to do so and thrown overboard its customers, and made a great many thousand dollars thereby. His participation in this coal famine episode is in line with hundreds of other things which he has done for Gardner, principally among which was, perhaps, the building of the Central Oil & Gas Stove Co., which started from nothing in 1884 and is now the fourth largest industry in the town.

### BECOMES A LAWYER

About 1900, when 45 years of age, Mr. WILDER took up the study of law. Having had quite a wide experience in business and corporation law and wishing to further increase his knowledge in these respects, he made arrangements with Thatcher B. Dunn, a leading lawyer, to direct his studies and tutor him every afternoon that was available to both of them. Mr. WILDER, wishing to practice more particularly before the United States courts on account of all bankruptcy and patent matters being

handled exclusively in such courts, and being eligible by his many years' connection with a Washington office, took a two days' written examination in Washington, which he successfully passed and was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court for the District of Columbia and the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, and from there took admission to the United States courts for the first district, which includes Massachusetts and practically all New England. After three years he became eligible for admission to the bar of the United States Supreme Court, which in turn gives admission to the United States courts anywhere by simply taking the oath. This he obtained in the spring of 1909. Mr. WILDER did not cater to office practice, although quite frequently he settled an estate and drew deeds and papers, as were required. He took the most interest in intricate business problems and business troubles, he having set quite a few business concerns on their feet that were in imminent danger, being considered an expert on corporation, bankruptcy, patents, and general business law.

Naturally this class of legal work brought him in contact with many men of business and had given him an acquaintance and a knowledge of men that was possessed by few in the fourth district.

This class of practice demonstrated to Mr. WILDER the necessity of so safeguarding his own industries that they might not suffer in times of depression or panic. His own experience had shown him that there were in certain business aggregations features which were not only ethically but practically wrong, and so he conceived the idea of a legitimate cooperation by the welding together of the various manufacturing concerns, whose lines of product were wholly different, but whose common interests were such that each might well cooperate with others to the material advantage of all.

### SOME RESULTS OF HIS ACTIVITIES

On April 15, 1908, in Washington, Mr. WILDER addressed the House Committee on Banking and Currency on the Aldrich bill then before the House. The invitation to

address the committee came through Congressman John W. Weeks, of Massachusetts, then a member of it. Congressman Fowler, then chairman of the committee, also introduced a bill. Mr. Wilder was opposed to both the Aldrich and the Fowler bills. The latter he thought was entirely impracticable; the former was based wholly on bonds.

Mr. Wilder was practically the only layman who addressed the committee, and stated to the members that he deemed it unfair that a bill in which the people were as much interested as the bankers should be controlled entirely by bankers. In any event both bills referred to were defeated and the bill that finally became a law was put through at a later session, Congressman Fowler being succeeded in the committee by Congressman Vreeland, of New York, so that our present emergency currency bill is known as the Aldrich-Vreeland bill. Mr. Wilder's address was recorded in the proceedings of the complete committee and was also issued by the committee separately, it comprising, in the statement and the many questions asked him by members of the committee, 11 full octavo pages.

About this time Mr. Wilder wrote a pamphlet entitled "My Notions on the Currency Question," and which was thought by many to clearly diagnose the conditions existing at that time, when the Federal Government had on deposit with the national banks something over $200,000,000, argument being based on that fact.

In the spring of 1909 Mr. Wilder spent a month on a trip to the Panama Canal, and here he was indebted to Senator Crane for the splendid reception he received at the hands of ex-Senator J. S. C. Blackburn, of Kentucky, a member of the Isthmian Canal Commission and Governor of the Canal Zone. Mr. Wilder was afforded every opportunity to get a thorough insight into the plans and operations of the work by Col. George W. Goethals, who is chairman and chief engineer of the Isthmian Canal Commission and president of the Panama Canal Railroad & Steamship Co.

On July 3, 1909, Mr. Wilder again went abroad, this time to study the monetary systems of Germany and

France, having interviews with bankers to whom he had credit letters. He visited Hamburg, Berlin, Dresden, Carlsbad, and Vienna, and he never hesitated to say that the banking systems of the Old World are wholly inapplicable to America. Mr. WILDER returned home carrying the firm belief that America must build for America on American lines.

Beginning with 1884, Mr. WILDER covered all the large cities of the United States as far south as Atlanta and as far west as Kansas City, and nearly every town of any considerable size in New England, these trips being made for the purpose of selling the product of the factories with which Mr. WILDER was connected. His business has taken him to the Pacific coast in all five times, so that he gained a thorough knowledge of the country.

For a period of 38 years Mr. WILDER was an employer of labor, and never during all that period had a strike, lockout, or disagreement marred his relations with his employees. Many of Mr. WILDER's employees have been with him more than a score of years, and he was held in high esteem by them.

Mr. WILDER was a thirty-second degree Mason, a member of Hope Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Gardner Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, of which organization he was at one time at the head, having previously occupied the same position in North Star Chapter of Winchendon. He was a member of Ivanhoe Commandery, Knights Templar, of Gardner, and Aleppo Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Boston. He was also an honorary member of D. G. Farragut Post 116, Grand Army of the Republic.

He was a member of the First Congregational Church of Gardner, a charter member of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor of that church, and for many years held many prominent offices connected with the work of the church.

Congressman WILLIAM H. WILDER, of the third Massachusetts district, who died at his apartments in the Woodward, Washington, D. C., on Thursday evening, was laid at rest in Crystal Lake Cemetery on Sunday afternoon.

A complication of diseases from which Mr. Wilder had suffered for nearly two years became violent several weeks ago and the Congressman took to his bed.

Gradually his condition grew worse. The best corps of physicians procurable were in attendance, and on Thursday all hopes of the Congressman's recovery were given up. That evening at 6.30 o'clock he peacefully passed away.

He was twice married, his first wife being Miss Helen M. Laws, who died in 1909, leaving a family of five children. In 1912 Mr. Wilder married Miss Irene Paula Uibel, of New York, who survives him, as well as these children: Solon Wilder, president of the Wilder Industries; Paul Wilder, a foreman for the same concern; Miss Marion Wilder, Mrs. Naomi (Wilder) Gay, wife of Wallace Gay; and Mrs. Alice (Wilder) Wood, wife of Harold I. Wood, all of Gardner.

His death was announced in the House that night by his colleague, Congressman Allen T. Treadway, of this State. The House after adopting resolutions of sympathy and respect adjourned as a further mark of respect.

### FUNERAL SERVICES

The remains arrived aboard a special train from Washington on Sunday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock. Accompanying the body were Mrs. Wilder, widow of the late Congressman, and an attendant; Solon Wilder, a son; Harry C. Bates, secretary; and Miss Bertha Rothwell, secretary for Solon Wilder.

Representatives of the Senate who accompanied the body were H. L. Myers, Montana; Henry Cabot Lodge, Massachusetts; Thomas J. Walsh, Montana; Thomas B. Catron, New Mexico.

Congressmen attending were John J. Mitchell, James Curley, Thomas C. Thacher, Frederick S. Deitrick, Allen T. Treadway, Samuel E. Winslow, and John J. Rogers, all of Massachusetts; Asher C. Hinds, of Maine; William A. Oldfield, of Arkansas; and Judge Charles A. Adamson, of Georgia.

At 4 o'clock funeral services were conducted in the home by Rev. B. S. Gilman, pastor of the First Congre-

gational Church. Mrs. Grace S. Chandler, of Fitchburg, and Mrs. W. H. Griffin, of Westminster, sang several selections.

A delegation of 50 Knights Templar in full uniform served as an escort. At the close of the services the house was thrown open to the public. All the employees of the Central Oil & Gas Stove Co. viewed the remains in a body.

The bearers were: Harvey N. Brooks, Fred E. White, Stanley A. Sparrow, Joseph P. Carney, Herbert D. Burnham, Henry F. Howe, Charles B. Eager, Marlboro; Edward P. Cole, Marshfield.

A delegation from the Gardner Business Men's Association, including George A. Swallow, A. W. Pineo, Lewis A. Wright, Daniel Ryan, Fred Grammont, and Martin E. S. Anderholm, attended the funeral.

Personal friends of the Congressman who attended the funeral were: Orra L. Stone, of Clinton; Samuel W. McCall, Dr. George L. Drury, of Boston; C. E. Berry and Scott Roe, of Waltham; E. A. Thissell, of Lowell; William J. H. Nourse, of Worcester; and Charles B. Eager, of Marlboro. Burial was in the family lot in Crystal Lake Cemetery. Many handsome floral pieces were received.



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